

IN THE CLAIMS

All pending claims are reproduced below.

Claims 1-9 are canceled.

10. (Previously Presented) A product for a team auction system comprising:
instructions for directing a processing device to:
partition participants into teams, wherein a team comprises team members;
determine a team bid;
determine a winning team based on said team bid allocate items to said
team members; and
a media readable by said processing device that stores said instructions.
11. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 10 wherein
said instruction for determining a team bid comprises aggregating bids of team members.
12. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 10 wherein
said instruction for allocating items is based on aggregated bids of teams.
13. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 10 wherein
said instruction for determining a winning team is during a clearing phase.
14. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 10 wherein
said instruction for allocating items to said team members further comprises determining said
allocation based on bids made by each said team member.

15. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 10 wherein a participant chooses a team at the beginning of the team auction.
16. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 10 wherein said instructions for directing a processing device further comprise:
selecting a quantity of teams to proceed to at least one additional round.
17. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 16 wherein said instructions for directing a processing device further comprise:
allocating a prize to a team that wins said at least one additional round.
18. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 10 wherein said team cooperates with another team.
19. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 18 wherein said team competes with said another team.
20. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 10 wherein said instructions for directing a processing device further comprise:
forming at least one bidding group wherein said at least one bidding group cooperates with another bidding group.
21. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 20 wherein said at least one bidding group competes with said another bidding group.

22. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 10 wherein said instructions for directing a processing device further comprise:

enabling at least one on-line bidding community, wherein said at least one on-line bidding community cooperates with another on-line bidding community.

23. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 10 wherein said at least one on-line bidding community competes with said another on-line bidding community.

24. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 10 wherein said instructions for directing a processing device further comprise:

partitioning at least one participant based on an interest of said at least one participant.

25. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 10 wherein said instructions for directing a processing device further comprise:

partitioning at least one participant based on a predetermined process for partitioning said at least one participant.

26. (Previously Presented) The product for a team auction system of claim 10 wherein said instructions for directing a processing device further comprise:

summing each bid of said team members of said team;
averaging said sum of each bid of said team members of said team;
determining said team bid based on said average of said sum of each bid of said team members of said team.

Claims 27-61 are canceled.

62. (Previously Presented) A product for a tournament auction system comprising:

instructions for directing a processing device to:

receive a plurality of items for sale by a seller;

auction said items sequentially in a series of rounds of bidding, a set of auctioned items for each round of bidding;

receive bids for said set of auctioned items from a plurality of bidders

during each round;

allocate each set of auctioned items to at least one of said plurality of bidders at a predetermined round;

admit to each subsequent rounds of bidding a subset of bidders from the previous round according to the bid value placed by each bidder; and

a media readable by said processing device that stores said instructions.

63. (Previously Presented) The product for a tournament auction system of claim 62

wherein said bidder pays said bid responsive to being prioritized over other bidders in said last round.

64. (Previously Presented) The product for a tournament auction system of claim 62

wherein each set of items is allocated immediately after the round in which each set of items are auctioned.

65. (Previously Presented) A product for a tournament auction system comprising:

instructions for directing a processing device to:

receive an item for sale by a seller;
auction said item sequentially in a series of rounds of bidding; receive bids
for said auctioned item from a plurality of bidders during each of said series of rounds;
admit to each of a subsequent round of bidding a subset of bidders from a
previous round responsive to a bid value placed by each of said plurality of bidders, wherein said
subset of bidders are assessed a payment in response to being admitted in each subsequent round;
and
a media readable by said processing device that stores said instructions.